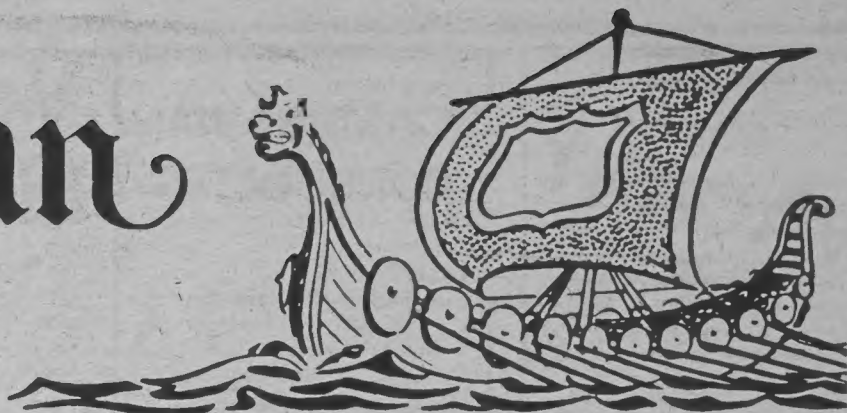


Scandinavian News



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Record Number Expected for Birkebeiner Race

A record number of cross-country skiers are expected to take part in the February 14 Third Annual Sun Life Canadian Birkebeiner.

The 55 km. Devon-to-Edmonton ski race has attracted entries from Saskatchewan and B.C. and U.S. skiers are also expected to enter.

"The marathon race is patterned after the Norwegian Birkebeiner ski race, which began in 1932 and continues each year as part of the World Loppet Series," said Karen Hovind, a member of the organizing committee.

"Birkebeiner participants are required to carry a 5.5 kilogram pack, which symbolizes the weight of the infant crown prince rescued by the Birkebeiners during the invasion of central Norway in 1206."

Skiers not wanting to carry

a pack can enter the Birkebeiner Lite category.

A \$25 entry fee includes transportation to the race start on the Devon golf course, refreshments, souvenir, and a Viking feast.

For those wanting a shorter race, or to involve the family in an outing, a 20 km. race, Ole's Two Bit Tour, will also be held.

Bob Townsend of High Country Sports is organizing *Ski the Birkie with Bob* training sessions on Sunday mornings.

Meet 9:30 a.m. by the bicycle stands outside the Kinsmen Fieldhouse.

"We hope to get a group to ski the river valley trails, increasing distance each week," said Townsend.

For more race information, call: 428-3033 or 452-4501.

Mjaatveits Receive 50-year Pins

By Bob Burt

120 members, wives and guests gathered at the Saxony Inn December 6th to partake of that delicious cod (Torske). This night was one of two during the year when men of the club invite their ladies to be wined and dined as well as entertained.

Following a most enjoyable supper, toastmaster Gene Bolstad welcomed all guests. The toast to the ladies was given by Sig Sorenson, and answered by his wife, Selma. Then came the introduction of guests, and there were many from far-away places. A call for jokes (funny stories) followed (it was well all present were adults and understanding).

Andy and Mattilde Mjaatveit were called upon to receive their 50-year service pins. Both Andy and Mattilde have served the lodge in many active positions.

Kare Hellum praised his past executive workers, and the many faithful members supporting the club. He wished the new executive, Roald

Enokson, the newly elected Boss, Secretary Anderson and Treasurer Vic Elverum a successful year.

The Sergeant-at-Arms collected fines for many misdemeanours from Sev Berge, Harv Haugen, Bob Burt, Sig

Sorenson, Evelyn Johnson, Elsworth Halberg, Don Sjole and Marlene Moore. Money collected was to go to the Christmas Bureau. Door prizes were won by Bill Congdon, Russell Stensland, Kris Nyhus

Continued on Page 8

Kris Nyhus presents Andy and Mattilde Mjaatveit with 50-year pins



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Vasa Lodge Skandia
No. 549

By Helen McEvoy

A belated Merry Christmas to you all, with the hope that 1987 will be a good year for everyone.

Missed from the last report from Skandia Lodge was the visit of Margaret Lundgren in October. Margaret spent the Thanksgiving holiday with the Leonard Eliasson family.

Andy McEvoy and three friends enjoyed a holiday in Mexico the first two weeks in November. They came back real fans of Mazatlan and Puerto Vallarta. Andy managed to get in some deep-sea fishing, catching himself an 8½ foot Marlin.

Connie Pearson spent a week in mid-November, visiting with Oscar and Winnie Pearson in Burnaby.

Gwen Ungarian visited with friends in Vancouver for an extended weekend in early November.

Congratulations to Marj and Don Samuelson on the birth of a new baby boy. Steven was born on November 22.

The Vasa Community has been saddened by the deaths of family members and friends in the latter part of 1986. Mrs. Betty Pearson passed away the latter part of November at the age of 86. Although she had been in B.C. for a number of years, most Skandia members remember Betty as a long time member of the Lodge. Also in late November Donald Saunders, father of Ray and Patty (Dezautels) and grandfather of Levi and Tanis passed away. Bert Lundgren of Burnaby died in hospital on Dec. 1st., after suffering heart problems for ten days. Margaret spent some time after Bert's funeral visiting with son Glen and Audrey in Edmonton. On Dec. 6th Ray McAuley suffered a heart attack and died very suddenly. Our sympathy goes out to all of those family members who lost loved ones.

Wayne and Audrey Modin spent the first week in December in Florida. While there, Wayne celebrated his birthday. Also while in Florida, their car was broad-sided by another vehicle, but aside from Audrey sustaining a knee injury, they were fortunately not seriously hurt.

Ken McEvoy retired from the C.N.R. Dec. 1st, after 41 years' service. Shortly after he travelled to B.C. to visit with friends in Kamloops and on to Burnaby to see Winnie and Oscar Pearson, where he found them both to be in good health.

Tom and Connie Pearson spent Christmas with Connie's parents in Kelowna, and after spending New Year's at Vasa Park, enjoyed a few days skiing in the mountains.

Alison and Harold Kunas and son David were up from Calgary to spend Christmas and New Year's with Bert and Vi Watson.

Anna and Ragnar Roos were honored on their 80th birthdays and Florence Erikson on her 82nd, with a decorated cake at the Dec. regular meeting.

Congratulations to Anna Sund on the occasion of her 80th birthday on Wednesday, January 7th. Her children Rudy and Carol, are honoring her with a party on Jan 11th. Happy Birthday as well to David Morris who was honored with a family birthday party on Dec. 29th. Also to Gail Sullivan - husband Joe arranged a big surprise party for her on January 2nd.

Ken and Helen McEvoy are happy to announce the engagement of son Andy, to Karen Nordel. Tentative wedding plans are for late 1987.

Doreen Heeks became a grandmother for the first time on December 30th, when a baby boy was born to Sue and Sheldon Heeks.

Joan, Lennart and Sandra Petersson spent two weeks in Hawaii, leaving on Dec. 27th. They were accompanied by Lennart's sister and her husband, who had arrived from Sweden on Christmas night.

Ed and Beulah Hinton enjoyed a two week holiday in Hawaii, leaving here on Nov. 25. They were able to enjoy the company of Myron and Kay Kerr for a dinner and some cards while there, as the Kerr's had a three week holiday in Hawaii.

Myron and Kay Kerr spent the Christmas holiday with their son in Regina.

Linnea Lodge continues to be active in Scandinavian affairs. She attended the annual meeting of the Edmonton Multicultural Society in early December, as the representative of the Scandinavian Heritage Society. Also in December, Linnea and Judy Van Es, representing the Finnish Society, arranged a Scandinavian display at the Provincial Museum.

The Lucia Pageant was presented at the Museum on December 11th - this was on "Scandinavian Night" at the Museum. The children also performed at St. Joseph's hospital, at the reception co-hosted by the Icelandic and Swedish Consuls at the Le Marchand Building, and at Augustana Church. A Christmas Party, complete with pot-luck supper, was also held at the Church. This year's Lucia was Tina Hansen.

Wendy (Brian) Johnson spent two weeks in New Zealand in the latter part of November and first week in December. Wendy's sister, who lives in Washington D.C. but whose husband is now posted in Rome, joined her in New Zealand to help settle their parents into new accommodations, so it was really an International family reunion.

Dorothy and Gordon Johnson and children Leanne and Scott, spent Christmas in Winnipeg with Dorothy's mother and family.

Several Skandia members report that Hansine Pierre was back at her home in McAuley Lodge, and although she was still using a walker, was doing very well. However, she had to be taken into the Royal Alex Hospital again on January 5th. She was having difficulty with swelling in her ankle and leg, and the doctor is treating her for phlebitis. We all wish her a really fast recovery.

Alice and Nels Sorensen are feeling very lonely these days. Daughter Joanne and Carl Kief left on January 1st for Toronto, where Carl will be the representative for Kief Music, whose head office is in Vancouver.

Congratulations to Nels Sorensen on his 60th birthday on January 19th.

Glen and Leslie Knutson and children Dana and Jonathan were up from Calgary to take part in the Knutson family Christmas at Chris and Bob Stevens.

Jim and Flo Markstrom had the Markstrom family Christmas at their house this year, after which Jim and Flo motored out to Victoria to visit with friends. Still with the Markstroms, congratulations to Minnie and Harold, who quietly celebrated their 44th Wedding Anniversary on New Year's Eve.

Verna Larson spent Christmas in Sweden, arriving just in time for Lutfisk. While there, she spent some time visiting art galleries and museums, among them the Prinz Eugens Waldemars-Udde. This museum had been the mansion of Prince Eugen, who was the brother of King Gustav V. The museum, which is open to the public and rotates paintings of Swedish painters, is located in Djugarden.

She also visited the Viking Museum which is an exhibition of Viking memorabilia, and had lunch at a restaurant that had been frequented by the poet and singer Carl Bulman.

Verna also visited with Inga Lindstrom, who many will remember from her time in Canada from 1959 to 1964. Inga, who was very active in Children's Club, has retired from her work in hospital and is very well and very busy visiting art galleries, museums and the like. She sent her fond regards to all who knew her here.

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Trollhaugen Salutes Famous Norsemen

By Astrid Hope

Camp Kariokas, Sylvan Lake, was the focal point as 88 people arrived from all directions to register for the fourteenth annual Trollhaugen Language, Arts and Crafts Camp on Sunday, August 17th. Some came from as far south as Calgary; others from Red Deer, Rocky Mountain House, Innisfail, Carstairs, Olds, Camrose, New Norway, Wetaskiwin, Vegreville, Mannville, Edmonton and Sherwood Park; as far north as Zama City; and as far east as Vermilion, Maidstone and Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Olds Lodge, Fjellsyn #591, hosted the camp for its second year. John Tierning, John Camp and wife, Tordis, were in charge. Emil Doring was elected to be manager of the camp. He was the M.C. and never seemed to run out of riddles or another joke. It was first time around for 60% of the participants. Being undeniably a family camp was very much in evidence this year, when a great-grandmother was present and each of 4 generations were represented. The oldest participant was Ruth Dodd, (71 yrs.), and the youngest was 2-year-old Nicholas Ness (Great-grandson to Ruth Wibe).

Camp activities started in full swing Monday. Each morning started with aerobics before breakfast. The theme of this year's camp was "Trollhaugen Salutes Famous Norsemen". "Dagbladet" of Oslo listed 20 world-famous Norwegians in one of its newspapers. It's quite impossible to honour all, but we tried to cover as many as possible in one week.

MONDAY

Since Bjornsterne Bjornson composed the words to "Ja, vi elsker", and relevant to our Syttende Mai celebration,

Monday, August 18th, we started with famous Literary people. The greatest, of course, is Henrik Ibsen, but he will be dealt with later in this article. Three Norwegians have been awarded the Nobel prize for Literature: Bjornsterne Bjornson, (1903), Knut Hamson, (1920), and Sigrid Undset in 1928.

Bjornsterne Bjornson (1832-1910), Norwegian writer, theatre director, and political writer, born in Kvikne and educated in the University of Christina (now Oslo). He pursued a literary and journalistic career. He wrote voluminously on outstanding social, political and moral questions of the time. He was also influential in the creation



The Oldest and the Youngest - Ruth Dodd, 71, and Nicholas Ness, 2

of Norwegian Literature with roots in the early culture of Norway. His novels and tales, typically Norwegian, contributed to his winning the Nobel Prize. He was one of Scandinavia's greatest orators and a leader in political struggle which led to the establishment of Norway as an independent country - hence the words of Norway's National Anthem, "Ja! vi elsker!" His numerous works include 'Synove Solbakken' (Sunny Hill), (1857); 'Arne'

(1858); 'Happy Boy, (1859); 'The Fisher Maiden' (1868); 'In God's Way' (1889); and many, many more.

Rikard Nidraak was the composer of 'Ja, vi elsker.'

Knut Hamson, born Knut Peterson (1859-1952), son of a poor cottager was born at Garmo, near Lom, Norway. He had little formal education and spent most of his adult life wandering from job to job. He was a clerk, salesman, apprentice, coal-trimmer, and country school-teacher. At the age of 20, he enrolled at Christiania with a view to becoming a journalist. He soon gave up this attempt and emigrated to America, where he spent 2 years, chiefly in Minnesota and Wisconsin, working at different occupations and doing some writing.

In 1884, he returned to Norway - in 1886 back to U.S.A., where he worked as a streetcar conductor and lecturer on literature before Scandinavian residents. In 1888, he went back to Norway and thereafter spent his full time writing. His novels reveal Hamson as a socially-minded author. Among many works 'Growth of the Soil' was considered Hamson's greatest novel - and in that year of publication, he received the Nobel Prize. 'Victoria' was also one of Hamson's most popular books and was published in English, German, French, Spanish, Polish, Greek and Serbian, and was also successful as a film. He had strong political views, even noted in his works, and openly sympathized with the Nazis. After the war (1946), he was tried for collaboration, but owing to his old age, his sentence consisted of only an \$85,000 fine.

Sigrid Undset (1882-1949), was born in Kallundborg, Denmark, studied at a business college and was a municipal clerk in Christiania

(Oslo) until 1909. She wrote of the rural, rather drab life of the working girl (Jenny 1911). She vividly and authentically reproduced the life and customs of Norway in the 14th century in 'Kristin Lavransdatter' (3 volumes 1920-1922). She is unequalled in her ability to penetrate the daily life and thoughts of medieval people. She produced the greatest historical novel in Norwegian literature, as 'Olav Audunsson in Hestviken' (2 volumes in 1925) and 'Olav Audunsson and His Children' (2 volumes in 1927). She was an outspoken patriot whose war-time propaganda attracted attention in America where she took refuge from the Germans in the last war.

Another great Norwegian writer, born in Kristiansund, was Hendrik Wergeland, connected with Norway's Independence. His father was a noted Eidsvoll man (the great historic place where Norway's Independence was signed), and Hendrik was a great genius. He had childlike simplicity, deep tumultuous emotion together with deep vision, sympathy for patriots fighting for freedom - be they Greeks, Poles, Spaniards or Norwegians. He is known to be a champion of the rights of people. He wrote a great deal

for the common people - to teach them not only love of their country, but a sorely needed appreciation of decent living (thrift, temperance, cleanliness and godliness). He wrote of simple things like a babbling brook, tirelessly washing the faces of the stones along its banks. Above all, Wergeland was thoroughly Norwegian. He wanted his country to have culture of its own, built on traditions of the past, which still lived amongst the common people. The most notable of his dramatic works is 'Campbellerene' (1837) and many lyrical narratives and poems such as 'Svalen' (1841) and 'Joden' (1842).

At Trollhaugen we celebrated Syttende Mai by the traditional procession around the grounds (to the music of a Hardanger fiddle tape) with a large Norwegian flag in the lead, followed by two carrying an Alberta and Canadian flag each. The proclamation was read by Emil Dorin followed by the Canadian, Norwegian and Alberta flags being hoisted by John Tierning. The respective National anthems were sung in unison, followed by a hip-hurrah cheer.

We had a special Syttende Mai Fest dinner, ending the meal with beautiful Blot-

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Skit: 'South Pole Exploration'

tekake. Mini-talks on the above Literary people were given by Astrid Hope and Chris Hale, who outlined the events leading up to Norway's Independence, and about Norway's MOST IMPORTANT people, King Olav and his son and wife, Prince Harald and Princess Sonia. The evening climaxed with folk-dancing.

TUESDAY

Tuesday was set aside for Viking V.I.P.s.

Norwegian Vikings were good skiers as described by Snorri, the Icelandic Saga writer of the Viking Kings of 900-1100. They achieved real feats which were retold through the centuries.

There were also occasions when skiing played an important part in the history of Norway. In 1206, when the country was ravaged by a civil war between 'Birkebeiner' (men wearing leggings of birch-bark) and the 'Bagler', the king's 2-year-old son, Hakon Hakonsson (1204-1263), was saved from falling into Bagler hands by the quick action of two of the fastest Birkebeiners skiers, Torstein Skerva and Skervald Skrukka. They smuggled the royal child in a small crib, as they skied across the mountains from Lillehammer in the Gudbrandsdal valley to Rena in the Osterdal valley. They

suffered hunger and hardship in a blistering storm, but they saved the life of young Hakon, who became King of Norway (1217-1263).

This epic saga is now commemorated annually through the great Marathon ski race, which takes place from Lillehammer to Rena, along the same road which was used some 750 years ago by the two Birkebeiners. In their honour, the present-day ski race is called the 'Birkebeiner Ski Race' which covers a distance of 50 km. or 35 miles across the mountains. They are to carry a 12 lb. pack-sack (weight of the child). It takes about 5-7 hours from start to finish, and usually gathers thousands of competitors.

Closer to home, the second annual Birkebeiner Race was run this year from Devon to Edmonton.

Trollhaugen too, commemorated this epic saga by having its own 'Birkebeiner' race. The only difference was instead of having a 'ski' race, it was a 'foot' race. Participants were to register in their specific categories and a few set rules were laid out, including the distance. Each received a numbered bib (compliments of Sun Life Assurance Co.) and helmet. In Viking dress, Ole started each

race with a gong (clashed two lids) and the race was off.

Supper that day had a special Viking flavour, too. Thralls (slaves in white tunics) served the tables - grape juice, lobsause (stew with chunks of beef, potatoes, carrots, turnips, onions and cabbage with just enough gravy to coat) eaten only with a knife, with apples and grapes for dessert. The 'Vikings' in their superior position, didn't miss their chance to demand menial tasks of their slaves or having them run off to do errands. The 'Vikings' were Ole Valmstad and Kevin Ellefson, while the 'slaves' were Anita Dodd, Denise Logan, Jocelyn Logan, Trish Fitzsimmons, Shannon Martin, and Arlene Greenwall.

Awards for the race were given out following the supper. The special cherished awards were deer-horn slabs, scrimshawed with a 'Viking runic' outline of a skier, made by Harry Huser. Awards were given out by Astrid Hope.

For being a 'real Birkebeiner' and having a 'real two-year-old infant' on his back, a special award was given to William Ayre.

WEDNESDAY

'Trollhaugen' was to pay tribute to 'Explorers' on Wednesday. Mention was given to Leif Eriksson, who

found America around 1000, and to Fridtjof Nansen (1861-1930), who discovered the North Pole. However, it will be 75 years on December 14th this year since Roald Amundsen marked the end of a remarkable polar trip, so special tribute was given to Amundsen (1872-1928).

Even as a child, he was viewed as "the last of the Vikings". Roald Engebret Gravning Amundsen was born July 16th, 1872, into a family of seamen and ship-owners. At three months, he moved with his parents and three older brothers from Hvidsten, a seafaring town to Christiania (now Oslo). Skiing being Norway's native sport, as soon as Roald could walk, he was put on skis made by his father. For the sake of their characters, his dad had no desire to spoil his sons, so they had to learn in a hard school. The rich environment of Oslo during the beginning of the age of nationalism, together with regular holidays to his cousins in Hvidsten, set the groundwork for Roald to become an adventurer and explorer.

All 4 brothers were sent to a private school in France. Roald's mother hoped he would become a doctor, but Roald did not share her aspirations. At age 15, inspired by the writing of Sir John Franklin, he decided to become a polar explorer.

His first major ski trek was at 17 with 3 schoolmates. The jaunt lasted 20 hours without sleep across miles of untamed winterland (Hardangervida). He spent 2 years at University, enrolled in medicine but quit immediately after his mother died. He spent 7 months in the Norwegian army and went to sea, becoming a polar explorer. His first trip to the North Pole was on the ship 'Belgia'. There he was introduced to the controversy over magnetic Poles - were they movable or were they fixed?

Amundsen's first real command was on the ship 'Gjoa' and he sailed the Northwest Passage. In the meantime, in anticipation of exploring the South Pole, he was intent on learning all about Polar living - clothing (fur throughout), diet (vitamins important and seal meat), transportation (skis and dog sledges especially built) and he chose his men with as much care. Nothing was overlooked.

Roald had difficulty raising money enough to make the voyage. He finally got some

from the government and the rest from a close friend. Nansen, his friend, had great influence in helping him to get his money, and Roald even mortgaged his own home.

The South Pole race between Amundsen and the British Robert Scott came about quite accidentally. With the announcement that Perry had reached the North Pole in April, 1909, Scott decided he wouldn't go there then.

Amundsen set out on the 'Fram' at midnight, June 7th, 1911, and even his own men didn't know their destination until they were on the way to Antarctica. Stopping at Madeira, Amundsen wired Scott of his surprise. Scott was angry, but Amundsen simply stated that he wanted the race to be an open, fair competition. Scott left on his trip June 15th.

The whole trip was a real challenge - blizzards, fog, extremely low temperatures, geographical hazards like crevasses, mountain terrain, etc.

'When Amundsen was at 86° was the basis of a skit done by volunteer 'actors'. With a mural of the Antarctica in the background and a tent, they enacted the scene where the Pole is in sight, ever fearful that Scott may have beaten him there. Running to investigate a mirage, it turns out to be only dog-turds. At 89°, excitement was great - they couldn't believe an English flag was seen? Nearly at the Pole, they wanted Amundsen to be the first to set foot on it. They reached the Pole at 3 p.m. December 15, 1911, where they planted the Norwegian flag, and named this place King Haakon VII Plateau.

Another scene: Party go into the tent. It is Christmas. The officers sit down together for their Christmas dinner. Amundsen had arranged a little surprise. The tune 'Glade Jul, Hellige Jul' spurts out of his hidden gramophone. Our tape recorder decided to play 'Jeg er saa glad hver Julekveld' and our boys went along with that. In Roald's diary "One had to made of more than steel to feel the tears coming". A cablegram was sent to the King of Norway. "Amundsen discovers South Pole" was in all the newspapers.

The boys leave by closing the doors of the tent, and a final salute to the Norwegian flag flying from the top, with the words "So farewell, dear Pole, I don't think we'll meet again."

Another group of boys

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represented Scott's men. After some commentary the British flag was placed beside the Norwegian flag (Scott had arrived a month later, on January 17, 1912. None of his party survived the trip back.)

Players in this skit were: Amundsen's crew: Shane Hill, Jason Hilderman and Lorin Vigen dressed up in furs, parkas, while Scott's crew were Kirby Short, William Ayre and Trond Nielson dressed in parkas with helmets and scarves.

There were great celebrations in Norway on Roald's return. He was a celebrity. In 1914, he became obsessed with the idea of being the first man to fly across the Arctic. 11 years later, at the age of 53, he reached his goal.

His last adventure was a rescue mission to save a plane-wrecked crew on an ice flow in the Barents Sea. On June 18th, 1928, Amundsen's plane went down in the Polar Sea, his only true home on earth.

THURSDAY

Thursday dealt with other famous Norsemen. This day, we gave special emphasis to Henrik Ibsen (1828-1906), the dramatist, who became famous worldwide for his realistic plays involving social problems. Henrik Ibsen was born in Skien on March 20, 1828. His father was a well-to-do merchant in the town, and the family led an aristocratic style of life until 1836. When Ibsen was seven, his father went bankrupt. As a child, Ibsen was thought to be strange. His favourite subjects were history and religion. As a youth, he didn't know whether he should go into art or writing.

At the age of 15, he was apprenticed to an apothecary, and it was his dislike for his work that first motivated him to write. A steady writer throughout his life, in 1851 he was appointed stage director and dramatist to Ole Bull's National Theatre and, in 1857, he became Director of the Norwegian Theatre, Oslo. After being denied a poet's pension, he travelled widely in Europe, Germany and Italy. He received his pension 2 years after he left. In those years, he became a well-known dramatist. Some of Ibsen's most memorable plays

are 'League of Youth' (1869), 'Pillars of Society' (1877), 'Doll's House' (1879), 'Ghosts' (1869), 'Wild Duck' (1884), and 'The Master Builder' (1892). Many of his plays emphasize symbolic, mystical and ironic qualities. He was years ahead of his time.

We did an excerpt from 'Peer Gynt' (1867) - a version of 'Royal Hall of the Mountain Troll' (Act II Scene VI). This play is from a Norse folk legend of a vain, boastful hero who is also a chronic liar. Background to the scene: Peer lives with his aging mother, Aase. On the wedding day of his former beloved, Ingrid, he abducts her and takes her off to the mountains. After she deserts him, he becomes an outlaw and is involved in various adventures, including one with the Troll King's daughter in the Hall of the Mountain King. The next part was enacted by a few volunteer 'actors'. Peer is being threatened by the Troll community to the point of giving him 'cow-cakes and oxen-mead'. But, the worst was to lose one's freedom - to end one day as a Troll of the mountains. Church bells save the day as the Trolls disperse and the Hall falls to pieces and everything disappears. Edvard Grieg, on the request of Henrik Ibsen, composed music for 'Peer Gynt', and this taped music was played in the background.



Skit: 'Peer Gynt'

Peer kept wandering the world aimlessly. When he decided to go back to Norway, his mother was on her death-bed. Solveig is so happy to see him, she greets him with open arms. He had a hard time distinguishing dreams from reality. Solveig with her faith, hope and love said she would help him; Ibsen's famous line "Man to thyself be true" comes from this play. It is said we all have a bit of Peer Gynt in us.

'Actors' in Troll costume were Lorin Vigen as Troll King, and other Trolls were Kirby Short, Trond Nielsen and Shane Hill. Maiden-Troll was Kara Martin.

FRIDAY

Friday we were to honour the Norwegian of the year, chosen by Sons of Norway International Board of Directors for 1986. Thor Heyerdal was

selected, as he is an appropriate role model reflecting qualities of vitality, perseverance and academic excellence, also exemplifying the best of the Norwegian character.

Thor Heyerdal was born on October 6th, 1914, in Larvik, Norway. His mother inspired the boy with her interests in zoology and anthropology - she was head of the local city museum. His understand-

ing father helped him with financial assistance and he opened a one-room zoological museum in his own home while still in primary school. He enrolled in the University of Oslo specializing in zoology and geography until his University Department sponsored his first trip to Polynesia in 1937-38. He was a renowned anthropologist, and became best known for his oceanic voyages, proving that ships were seaworthy enough to ride the western winds for thousands of miles. In 1947, his maiden voyage was launched from Peru with 6 men aboard. In 101 days, the Kon-Tiki raft crossed 4300 miles of open ocean and landed in Polynesia. Thor Heyerdal was a special guest May 8th and 9th at the 1986 World Exposition in Vancouver.

'Trollhaugen' woodcrafters, under the direction of John Tierning, built a raft also, and were to relive the voyage of Thor Heyerdal. The raft was christened with the traditional

Continued on Page 6

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TROLLHAUGEN Continued

coconut and set sail with the red Kon-Tiki ensign. It was a very colourful sight on shore as Thor Heyerdal (Mark Richardson) was welcomed by the Mayor of the Island (Jason Hilderman) by handshakes. Maidens in bright dress and grass skirts were handing out leis. There was some dancing, too, to the background music of the Hawaiian guitar (tape).

Maidens were Marla Richardson, Jill Neilson, Amanda Hilderman, Kara Martin and Tasha Jorden. Boys dressed in Hawaiian shirts were Kirby Short and Shane Hill.

The trip climaxed with a reception and luau at the barbecue pit.

LANGUAGE AND CRAFTS

Meanwhile, and most importantly, language classes and different crafts went on regularly every day. Chris Hale taught Group C (13-18 years), also the adult beginners and advanced group. Louise Johnson taught Group A (6-9 years), and Group B (10-12 years). Louise and Chris both worked with Group A and B for the song and dance routines. Rosemaling came under the instruction of Anne Heggen and Mary Kjorvan.

The woodcarver this year was Dave Powers. Group B received introductory instructions while Groups C and D were carving out acanthus leaf for decorative hot-stands.



Slaves and Vikings - Viking Supper

Astrid Hope, assisted by Ruth Dodd, instructed crafts. Hardanger was for all - Group B - hardanger in framed rounds; Group C - hardanger aprons for the cherished Hardanger-costumed ragdolls;

while the adults made cream and sugar sets. Another day it was stuffed penguins and seals (stoff laeketoi) to go with the South Pole Expedition and woven turtles (Kon-Tiki Day).

Ethnic cooking was demonstrated by Olga Tierning and Sonia Kennedy. Lessons were given on kjettkaker, blotkaker, meat roll, flat-brod, smorbrot (tasted as delicious as they looked), pickled herring, lefse, hjortetak, rommegrot, goro, krumkake, and also fattigmand. A kransekake was made and decorated by Shiela Thorson. On the last day each family acquired a leaflet with all the recipes.

Our main cook for the camp was Avis Vigen, assisted by her daughter, Lois. The menu and meals were just tremen-

dous. They also cooked up quaint centre-pieces with candles for everyday, which is a tradition and a must on most of Norway's tables. The cooks were assisted by Marion Dalgren and Mil Haakonson.

Sports were taken care of by Ole Valmestad and Kevin Ellefson - those aerobics before breakfast, and water and field sports. Junior and Senior groups were very fortunate to have Robert and Carroll Borg from the Fanatullen Dance Society come in every evening from Red Deer to give folk-dancing instructions. In one week numerous dances, some new and different, were taught. John Tierning was in charge of the Choral singing with Sonia Kennedy at the piano.

Continued on Page 10

Skit: 'Kon Tiki' - Hawaiians



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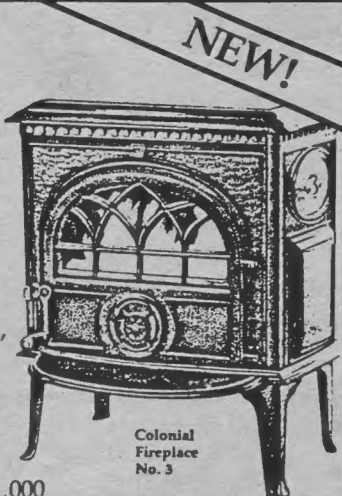
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Christmas in Norway

By Asbjorn and Anny Marie Waldmo.

In spite of regular visits to Norway, it was 20 years since our last Christmas there. Having passed through Norwegian Customs at Forneby Airport, we were met by Asbjorn's brother Ivor, who drove us to Jessheim, where his wife Solveig was waiting with the first of many Christmas meals; a Norwegian "Gryte" dinner and Champagne.

Normally one does not see much Christmas this early in Norway, but 1986 had a surprise. There were illuminated Christmas trees in the garden, and "Advent" lights and stars all lit up in the windows.

Late on the first evening snow began falling, heavy white snowflakes. Next day was truly beautiful, and as white a White Christmas as you can get. Every home seemed to have "Jule-nels" for the birds and bundles of seeds were hung in the trees around the houses. This made it cozy for the birds as well. There were hundreds of birds feasting, the bullfinch being the most prominent, but the tomtit, sparrow and blue titmouse were all there and many others.

From Jessheim we went to Lillestrom where we caught

the Dovre Express to Trondheim. The Norwegian Railroad (Norge Statsbaner) is a must if you travel that way; the Dovre Express by day was impressive. All announcements, and there were many, were made in Norwegian, English and German, - Mjosa, Drivdalen, etc. All were well described and recognized. Newspapers, magazines and food service made it a beautiful, although short, day-trip.

We left the train at Berkak, to catch the bus down the valleys of our youth: Rennebu, Jerpstad, Meldal to Lokken, where Anny Marie's Mom met us as we came off the bus. The warm hugs were good now, as the temperature was -20°, where it stayed most of the time.

The "Meldals-sodd" tasted great, and went well with "lefse" and "tomtebrygg" beer. 1986 had been a real cloudberry (Mulle) year in Norway, so everybody had lots of that ever-so-good Norwegian delicacy.

We rented a car, as we were now in the centre of family and friends, all these spread around between Meldal, Lokken, Orkdal, Orkanger, Borsja and Trondheim. The Noroil (gas) costs

well over a dollar per litre, but everybody drives a car.

Trondheim was nicely decorated for Christmas and shopping centres and restaurants were all playing Christmas carols, in English as well as Norwegian. It was good to get in some shopping among all the meals and festivities. We picked up a fair bit of rosemalling on this visit.

We were offered cookies and cakes, from 7 to 12 different kinds each time. Who can survive that? Well, we did, - barely! We also had the opportunity to taste Norway's New National Brew, the H.B., which you cannot buy in any liquor store. It seemed to be most popular and well-made. It is easy to understand, when the price of good Scotch, etc. starts from \$60 to \$65 per bottle.

This Christmas was very special - we had Christmas Dinner many times, eating with Asbjorn's brothers and Anny Marie's mom. They were different dinners for different days.

Christmas Eve, with "Melkesuppe", lutefisk, lefse and multekrem is most common in Trondelag. Pork roast and ribs is another popular meal, mostly served on Christmas Day with "surkal" and tyttebaer (lingonberries). Now you can even have turkey for dinner in Norway. In the Valleys they have very special and delicious meals

like Meldals-sodd, Orkdals-sodd, etc. - soups composed in many ways, going back hundreds of years, from broth of different strengths, with meatballs or noodles, etc. - from light to heavy; but always very good.

On Dec. 31st we took off for Lillehammer, where we celebrated New Year's Eve with Anny Marie's brother and mom. We survived both the food and the rocket crossfire. The sky above Lillehammer was all lit up that night. Lillehammer was a runner-up for the Winter Olympics, and we could see why. Going out to Sjusjoen and next day, there were luxurious mountain resorts and hotels. The ski-tracks, and

there were many, were full of smartly-dressed, ship-shape Norwegians, young and old, fit as a dream, sliding along with ease. They surely do not stuff themselves the way they stuff their visitors. Nice place for a Winter Skiing Vacation.

The last day and night we spent in Oslo. There were things happening there too. The old Akers Mek Verskted no longer is building ships. The show place is now a huge shopping centre. We finished all with a big dinner downtown.

On January 3rd there was a sizeable crowd seeing us off at Forneby Airport. We were off to Frankfurt, then Edmonton. That was Christmas in Norway!!! Try it sometime!!

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Finnish Footnotes

By Anja Sahuri

The adult Christmas party was a success and all the proceeds will go towards the summer camp at Fort Lake. Finland's Independence Day also fell on that day, and Consul Graefe held a small reception at the beginning. Then, following a short program to honor Urho Kekkonen's memory, the Christmas portion of the evening began. The executive of the Finnish Society wished to thank all

those who brought food and cakes for the evening's enjoyment and also many thanks to all who donated items for the bazaar table. The evening was enjoyed by all and the faithful Joulupukki also came with a bag full of gifts.

The children's Christmas party also was very well attended; parents, grandparents and friends came to see the little children and the Santa Claus who was the honored

and much awaited guest of this occasion. Many thanks to the ladies who organized this event.

Friends of Johannes Ritala got together and some of them travelled to Rich Lake to wish him a very Happy 60th Birthday recently. The birthday boy received a pocket watch from all his friends in Edmonton, and the ladies had prepared sandwiches, cakes and all kinds of goodies for this special birthday party.

The Finnish Society's flowers were also presented to Mr. Ritala, who has helped us a lot at our summer camp at Fork Lake. Best of birthday wishes to you Johannes on your 60th birthday from all your friends and from the Finnish Society of Edmonton.

A Note Of Thanks:

My wife and I would like to express our most sincere thanks to the Finnish Society of Edmonton for the lovely flowers I received for my birthday and also many thanks to all my friends for coming all the way out here to Rich Lake to help me celebrate my 60th birthday.

Many thanks for the beautiful pocket watch you presented me with, and the birthday cake. Also a big thank you to the ladies who prepared all that delicious food.

It was a most enjoyable afternoon, one to be remembered and treasured for a long time.

Sydammelliset Kiitokset.

-Johannes Ritala.



Johannes and Mrs. Ritala inspect the new pocket watch

CONSUL CHRISTIAN GRAEFE HONOURED

Ambassador of Finland, His Excellency Jaakko Blomberg, held a luncheon reception at The Edmonton Petroleum Club on Monday, January 12, 1987. During this event His Excellency presented the decoration "Knight of the Order of the White Rose of Finland" to Mr. Christian Graefe, CM., Honorary Consul of Finland in Edmonton.



Roald Enokson, the New Boss

50-YEAR PINS

Continued from Page 1

and Mrs. Roald (Annie) Enokson, who picked her own name for a prize.

Guest speaker was Dr. Jim Butler, Professor at the U. of A. in the Forestry Department. He gave a talk and showed pictures of the "Kimota Dragon". He also spoke of the preservation of forest and wildlife in Indonesia, the Chinese National Parks, China in general, and the Tibetan Plateau. He referred to the Giant Panda and the Leopards of the remote areas. He was thanked for his most interesting presentation by Harv Haugen, and presented with a pair of Torske mugs as a memento of the occasion.

Ladies look forward to joining their partners for an evening with friends and fellow members. The January 6th Torske Klubben meeting will include Kare Hellum speaking on his many annual experiences in Hanoi, Saigon and Ho-Chi-Min City. The title of his talk will be "Fact or Fiction; or a Little Bit of Both".

Dates to mark on your calendar for meetings: March 3, April 7, May 5, June 6, September 8, October 6, November 3 and December 5th.



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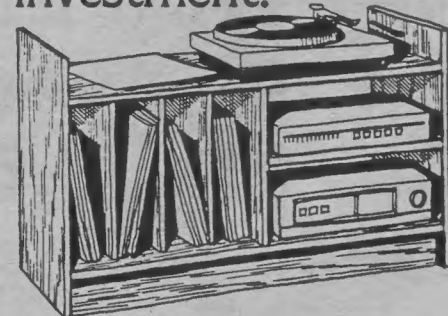


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Torske Klubben starts the New Year with Glogg

By Ken Domier

Sixty-one Torske Klubben members and guests gathered at the Saxony Inn on January 6, 1987. The evening started with hot glogg complete with raisins, almonds and filberts prepared by Ken Domier.

The meeting was chaired by new Bas, Roald Enokson. As usual the torsk was excellent, the akvavit was cold and the members sang countless rounds of the Torske Klubben drinking song. A special skål was given in memory of the legendary Jackrabbit Johanneson who recently passed away at the age of one hundred and eleven.

Guest speaker for the evening was last year's Bas, Dr. Kare Hellum, Professor of Forest Science, University of Alberta. Kare was in Vietnam in May and June of 1986 on a United Nations Food and

Agriculture mission to advise the government of Vietnam on tree seed collection. At last September's meeting, Kare gave an illustrated talk to Torske Klubben about the countryside and people in Vietnam. This time he gave the members an insight into the trials and tribulations of an English-speaking visitor in a country that has foresters trained in Russian, German, French, etc. Despite problems with transportation, food, medical supplies, etc., Kare is looking forward to returning to Vietnam in the summer of 1987 to complete the next phase of the FAO project.

Torske Klubben of Edmonton has been in existence for 17 years. Based on the enthusiasm of the members, the Klubb should be around for many more years.

Solglyt "FreeLoader"

By Astrid Hope

The "Freeloaders" and their music helped to provide entertainment and enjoyment, and get their listeners in the "mood" during the Juletide season.

On December 3rd they entertained at St. Joseph's Auxiliary Hospital. Their receptive audience often joined in on the more popular tunes.

The "Freeloaders" responded to an invitation by the Scandinavian Heritage Society to play Norwegian Christmas carols at the Museum and Archives "Museum at Home" at 4:30 p.m. on December 11th. There was also a Juletide buffet special to complement the event. A beautiful Scandinavian Christmas display was viewed as though looking through a window into a specially decorated living area; very well done, Linnea Lodge!

At the annual S.N. Christmas party, held this year at the Masonic Temple,

the "Freeloaders" were part of the special Christmas play "Bestemor Reminiscens" (written and directed by Bea Huser), in turn playing background music of all those favourite Christmas carols (Norwegian and English) on stage, and for the traditional march around the Christmas tree. Thanks to Bea Huser and to all who participated in the Christmas program. It was greatly enjoyed!

On December 29th, Wally Broen and Harry Huser supplied the music and were guests of the residents and friends of Strathcona Place for their special year end dinner and dance. A great time was had by all as they danced the circle-two, square dance, and others.

See Page 11 for more details on the SN Christmas party.

February in the Solglyt Spotlight

By Bob Burt
Jan. 18th

Jan. 12th

Feb. 2nd
Feb. 14th

Feb 20th

March 2nd

March 6, 7, 8th

April 6th

May 4th
May 17th

June 1st
June 19-21st

August

September 1st
October 2nd
November 2nd
December 7th

Installation of New executive. Brunch at Masonic Temple at 1:00 p.m.
Very popular Old and New Executive and General Meeting held making plans for the New Year, ending with a lovely lunch.
General Meeting at MacKay House.
3rd Annual Canadian Birkebeiner Ski Race Devon-Edmonton 55 km.
HYTTE FEST at Fort Edmonton 6 -7 p.m.; Cocktails, 7-8 p.m.; Pea Soup Dinner; Sing song; Skits; followed by Dance. To be held in H.Q. Clerks' Quarters at Fort Edmonton.
General Meeting and Information on Queen Contest.
Winter Sports Meet at Olds. - Contact Keith Moore or Kaare Askildt.
Queen Contest. Initiation of New Members. Wine and Cheese.
General Meeting.
Syttende Mai Flag-Raising at City Hall. Be there 10:30 a.m.
Executive meeting.
Pigeon Lake, St. Hans Fest, Horse Shoes, Fishing and Golf.
CULTURAL NORWEGIAN LANGUAGE CAMP. 3rd Week in August 16-23rd. Sponsored this year by Calgary Valhalla Lodge.
General Meeting. Initiation of New Members.
Lief Erickson Celebration.
Nomination of Officers for New Year. Bingo??
Executive Officers Meeting.
13th Christmas Party.

SOLGLYT LODGE is responsible for DISTRICT 4 CONVENTION in 1990.

All dates subject to change, as well as programs. Further and complete information concerning events to be published by both Newsletter and Newspaper, throughout the New Year.

The new Vice President elected is Verner Steinbru.
Sports Officer - Keith Moore.

CAN ANYONE HELP ME?

I have been asked to sit on the ACCY, Alberta Committee on Children and Youth, now that there is a vacancy on their Board. And I have been for many years now with the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Edmonton as a Board member.

I hope to visit Sweden this year and would appreciate hearing of the different routes and dates available. I would like to visit all three countries and imagine that Copenhagen, where my cousin's son is an International Lawyer, would be my first stop, going the southern Swedish route to Stockholm and across on the boat to the west coast of Sweden then up to Oslo, etc.

I am most interested in Folk Art Museums. My own family go back to 1600, and were in glass and goldsmithing.

With thanks...

Margaret Smith



Cultural Corner

By Astrid Hope

On November 23rd, at the Museum and Archives, the Cultural performance was designated to the Icelanders. On stage Richard White, Edmonton folk-singer, sang Stephan G. Stephansson poems. Stephansson House near Markerville is dedicated to the memory of this famous Icelandic pioneer poet. Meanwhile, Astrid Hope had a craft demonstration of "Hardanger" embroidery.

On December 4th Ruth

Wiebe and Astrid Hope went to Glenn Allen School in Sherwood Park to talk about and display Norwegian Christmas customs and traditions to two classes. Ruth's granddaughter attends this school.

Then, on December 9th, Astrid Hope accompanied Bea and Harry Huser in response

to a request by the teachers of Glenora Elementary School. The special skit "Bestemor Reminiscens" was rehearsed with the pupils taking part. They also marched around the Christmas tree and sampled the lefse we had brought. Norway was one of several countries which was on their customs and traditions curriculum.



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TROLLHAUGEN

Continued

Our camp nurse was Shiela Thorson, who was kept busy with bruises and repeat dressings, treating allergies (especially from those pesky mosquitoes). A couple of people needed medical attention.

Louise Logan was in charge of Group A (6-9 years). Unique crafts were created, like Norwegian costume paper-dolls with moveable joints, Viking pine-cone skiers, penguins and Kon-Tiki rafts, and sand-casts. Every evening the youngsters enjoyed story-telling by the bonfire, followed by cocoa.

At the beginning of the week, to go along with the theme, each table received the name of another notable Norwegian, and had to do a little research on it. At the end of the week each, in turn, was read out.

As busy as we always were, we did take time to celebrate Mel Haakonson's 65th birthday on August 19th. Gratulere med dagen, Mel.

True to its name, there seemed to be Trolls at work at times. Peculiar happenings were going on from time to time. A bowl of rommegrot was set out especially for them, but still our mike disappeared for a day. A special note showed up and the request was filled - our mike was returned.

On Friday at noon Ole and Kevin, on behalf of all members at 'Trollhaugen' presented each of the instructors with a ribboned pen, showing their appreciation.

SATURDAY

Saturday came all too soon. There were language classes as scheduled and attempts to finish crafts. In the Craft building all was hustle to ready it for the display of ned-

dlecraft, rosemaling and woodcraft.

The final program started at 4:00 p.m. in the Chapel with Emil Dorin as M.C. John Kamp read greetings from Thelma Dorin who couldn't be present as she was a Delegate to the International Convention in Philadelphia this same week. Thelma did, however, come to the camp on the first day, and at a special meeting presented a surprise cheque of a generous amount in U.S. funds from the Fourth District to 'Trollhaugen'. Greetings were received from - Ruth Dodd, President of Fjellsyn; Hon. Roy Brassard, M.L.A. for Olds - Didsbury, representing the Minister of Culture; Hon. Dennis Anderson, a grant will be forthcoming; Ken Domier, Director, Sons of Norway Foundation of Canada with a couple of cheques; Betty Broen, Vice-President of Solglyt #143, Kris Nyhus, President, also in Philadelphia; Roald Enockson, of Torske Klubben, Edmonton, promising funds which will be sent in near future; Knut Vesterdal, President of Valhalla Lodge, Calgary, who announced that after their October meeting, it will be confirmed if Calgary will be hosts for the 1987 Camp.

The choral group sang a couple of tunes next, followed by the skit 'The Royal Hall of the Mountain Troll'. From there, all transferred to view the groups do their dancing at the tennis court.

There were approximately 50 guests who stayed to participate in the beautiful buffet prepared by our cooks. Preceding the meal, we were offered rommegrot and punch. The festive meal was a pork roast, cod with sauce, vegetables, salad, rice pudding with cranberry sauce, or more of that delectable rommegrot. The Kransekake was

also served. During the meal, we were especially favoured with Mary and Lloyd Kjørvaan doing a couple of vocals accompanied by Mary playing the harpsicord. A raffle draw was made after supper and June Ness and Shiela Brassard were the lucky holders, each receiving a carved board (done by Dave Powers).

On behalf of 'Trollhaugen' I wish to thank all the parties who so generously contributed to make it a success. It is most gratifying when the final words are "Se deg neste aar" - (See you next year!).

Did You Miss the Lutfiske Supper?

Told by Sig Sorenson;
Edited by Bob Burt.

November 22, 1986 will long be remembered in connection with the Lutfiske Supper sponsored by Sons of Norway Solglyt Lodge #143.

Because of the size of the hall at Saxony Motor Inn, on this occasion there were sittings for only 150 persons (they did serve 144). This is a far cry from the original Lutfiske Suppers held at the Masonic Temple, when there were several sittings with nearly 500 attending. Suppers then were followed by entertainment and two dance orchestras. The feasts were prepared and served by members volunteering their services and the amount of lutfiske used was well over 400 pounds. The charge for

this meal was \$2.00 a ticket, later raised to \$5.00; the present price is \$20.00. At our latest supper, the meal was excellent, but the only volunteers included the Ladies' Sewing Club making the Lefse, and the Krumkake was prepared by Janette Burt.

Sig and Selma Sorenson were the host and hostess of the party, which was a great success due to their energetic efforts; Sig was Master of Ceremonies. Following the Supper those attending were put in a jovial mood when Gary Johnson rendered "The Lutfiske Song".

Sig followed with tales of Lutfiske suppers over the past 36 years. He encouraged others present to reminisce about past suppers. Ellsworth Halberg recalled that the price of lutfiske was 35¢ a pound at the first supper; Gary Johnson recalled that Carl Elgstrand with his lively band provided music for those memorable occasions and he then introduced Margaret Elgstrand, Carl's wife. In past entertainment, folk songs were sung by Irene Hovde, and thoroughly enjoyed. It was unfortunate that Irene was not able to attend this evening. Vic Elverum was present, however, and rendered several Norwegian songs accompanied by his guitar.

Kris Nyhus, President of Solglyt Lodge (S.O.N.), was called upon to present Life Membership to Norman Nilsen. Norm was born in Bergen, married Johanne in 1945. They moved to Canada, where Norm carried on the carpentry trade. Both Norman and his wife received their 25-year pins in 1980.

Andy and Mattilde Mjaatveit were also present to receive their 50-year pins. Irene Hovde was not present to receive her Life Membership scroll and pin.

On receiving his scroll, Norm Nilsen recalled past Lutfiske Suppers and the entertainment provided by the Olson School of Music, the Carsten Carlson Acrobats, and Olaf Sveen with his songs. He commented on the work accomplished by Ragna Sivertsen and her staff cooking those suppers, while Mina MacDonald convened the programs. Norm was pleased to announce that Crystal (MacDonald) Fleuty, internationally-known singer from California, had returned to Edmonton to be present at the Supper. She honoured those present with her rendition of "Solveig's Song" and, after a standing ovation, she sang an encore "Kari Waits For Me". All present were thrilled with her singing.

Astrid Hope, Cultural Director, called upon Linda Nyhus, The Queen of Sons of Norway, Solglyt Lodge #143, to be presented with the Norwegian Silver Brooch to be worn on her costume, a memento of her reign as Queen.

Following the ceremonies, Gaby Haas, well-known accordionist, entertained with his music for the dance. Gaby Haas has entertained for the S.O.N. on numerous occasions, and his music and choice of tunes clearly encouraged the dance.

Those of you who missed the supper lost out on the event of the year - so sorry you weren't there.

Sigurd A. Sorenson, B.Ed., C.L.U.

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FINLAND

URHO KEKKONEN IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Urho Kekkonen, who served as President of Finland longer than anyone else, died in Helsinki on August 31, 1986 at the age of 85. Urho Kekkonen was President for a quarter of a century from 1956 to 1981. He relinquished his position as head of state because of ill health in October 1981.

Dr. Kekkonen was elected President in 1956 by the smallest majority. In the third round of voting he beat Karl-August Faegerholm by 151 votes to 149.

By the time he became President, Kekkonen had a distinguished career in Finnish politics behind him. He entered parliament in 1936 as a member of the Agrarian party. He held various ministerial posts and was Prime Minister in five governments.

"Urho Kekkonen's career was as varied and colourful as his personality. In whatever he attempted he was uncompromising and single-minded. He pursued what he felt was right and important for the nation without regard to opposition," said President Mauno Koivisto in his tribute.

"The building of trust in relations with the Soviet Union and the strengthening of this trust was always one of the central aims of his foreign policy. This was the base on which he also built good relations with the West, where he was applauded for his realism and political skill. Because of this, Finland has been able to serve the interests of international co-operation. The continuing vitality of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe is an internationally visible testament to Urho Kekkonen's life's work," said President Koivisto.

President Urho Kekkonen's most visible and lasting achievements were in the area of national security. The roots of his ideas can be traced back to the difficult years of World War II. Everything he did was based on the recognition that Finland's political destiny would be shaped by geography and history.

If relations with the Soviet Union represented one half of Urho Kekkonen's statesmanship, the other was the policy of neutrality made possible by mutual trust. Kekkonen himself described it as follows: "My life's work is bound up with Finland's policy of neutrality. I will work to my last breath to preserve and strengthen this policy." This he did.

the UK sector of the North Sea. Today, there are only nine ships left. However, on the Norwegian shelf there are 46 vessels in operation while there is one vessel on the Danish continental shelf.

As many as 58 ships of a fleet of 104 Norwegian supply ships are in lay-up at present. Among the nine remaining ships operating on the UK shelf, seven are on longer-term contract while two are on single voyage contract. The Norwegian ships that have been shut out from the UK shelf were the place of work for over 500 Norwegian seamen. In point of fact it is the Norwegian seamen who have been shut out from the UK sector. Norwegian shipowners may register their vessels under UK flag and respect the legislation of the country of registry which applies on the continental shelf which means the vessels must be manned by British seamen. This has been done in isolated cases.

UNEMPLOYMENT DROPPING STEADILY

Unemployment at end October was 33,800 in Norway, constituting 2% of the total work force, announces the Directorate of Labour. One year ago the corresponding figures were

36,300 and 2.4%. There has been a fall of 400 in the number of jobless in one month alone.

The highest unemployment rate was registered in the county of Nordland in north Norway, with 3.7% and the figures drop gradually as one moves southwards ending with 0.5% and 0.4% in Oslo, and the neighbouring county of Akershus respectively. The aggregate unemployment figure was divided between about 18,300 for men and 15,400 for women. From September to October unemployment among men rose by 900 while for women it fell by 1,300. 24,000 people were engaged on special government job schemes. This is 14,700 more than one year previous.

There were 9,000 unfilled jobs at end October, which is 2,700 more than in the same month last year.

The Labour Directorate describes the labour market as tight within most sectors, but with signs of an imminent fall in offshore activity and in some areas of the export industry.

NORWAY'S FIRST WIND-POWER STATION JOINS THE GRID

Wind generated electricity has for the first time become a part of Nor-

way's normal electricity supply. The windmill erected in the little island community of Froya, off mid Norway, is now supplying consumers with 55 kw of power per hour under optimum wind conditions. This is sufficient for the needs of 12-15 families. The planning, purchase and erection of the windmill, which was produced in Denmark, has cost around \$533,000 USD.

The location of the windmill was carefully selected. Wind conditions at the site are ideal for the tests that will now be carried out there. The companies involved wish to ascertain whether it would pay to build windmills at other locations too. Leonard Solvi, head of the local power supplying company thinks that wind power could prove sufficient to cover power

needs in many small and isolated communities.

Wind power can never be a mainstay of Norwegian power supply, however. On a yearly basis, the windmill on Froya will only be capable of delivering around 130,000 kwh, a fraction of the total power needs of the community. Wind power can, however, be a supplement to hydro power and various types of aggregates, says Solvi.

A series of tests is now to be carried out with the windmill on Froya, in co-operation with research institutes. It may be moved to other locations to see how it reacts to this. If the tests yield positive results, more and bigger windmills may well be supplying electrical power in Norway.

Continued on Page 12

Solglyt Christmas Party

By B.D. Huser

Members of Sons of Norway Solglyt Lodge, Edmonton, held their Christmas party at the Masonic Temple on December 14. The program began with a playlet, "Bestemor Reminisces", conceived by Astrid Hope and written by Bea Huser. A bewigged and shawled Bestemor (Bea) narrated the customs of Christmas in Norway to a group of children in front of a glowing fireplace, while other players, mainly Astrid Hope and Orla Tychsen, mimed the scenes. Little Kristopher Johnson, as the red-toqued julenisse with the rice porridge, stole the show.

Following the play the audience enjoyed songs sung in Norwegian by the Tungeland

and Sneddon children; then all participated in a carol-sing led by Wally Broen and the Free loaders. This culminated in the traditional walk around the Christmas tree. Santa entered to the tune of "Here Come Santa Claus" and left a bag of treats for each of the approximately 40 children.

Social Director Selma Sorenson supervised a ticket sale and draw. Main prize-winners were: Jeanne Viddal - gingerbread house; Bernice Nyhus - kransekake; Kirby Short - chocolates.

The party wound down with a social hour accompanying a delicious pot-luck supper.

"Tusen takk" to all who participated and made the afternoon such a glowing success.

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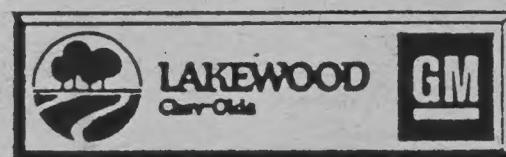
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SWEDEN

PRIVATELY OWNED OFFICE-ON-RAILS IN COMMUTER TRAFFIC IN SWEDEN

An "office on rails", a custom-built railway carriage believed to be the first of its kind in the world, was put into operation in central Sweden in mid-November. Called "Aseapendeln" (the Asea Shuttle), the carriage was developed in close co-operation between Asea, the electrical engineering and electronics group, the Swedish State Railways (SJ) and Kalmar Verkstad, and is the first privately-owned passenger carriage to run in regular service in Sweden.

The "office on rails", which can seat up to 40 passengers, will run daily with ordinary trains between the Swedish capital and Vasteras (some 120 km west of Stockholm), where Asea's head office and a number of the group's development and production units are located. The facilities include about 20 workplaces and special conference section and saloon for Asea's guests.

Some 20 telephones are connected to an ordinary telephone exchange, which in turn is coupled to the Nordic Mobile Telephone system. Phoning from the Asea Shuttle is just as simple as from a land based instrument; an outside line is obtained by dialing

0. In the opposite direction, a caller dials one of the mobile telephone numbers and the train hostess makes the connection. The system was designed by the Swedish Telecommunications Administration, its subsidiary Teli, and Gadelius elektronik AB.

The office is equipped with a number of typewriters, personal computers and a copier, among other things.

The carriage is a modified version of Kalmar Verkstad's Intercity type A7/B7. Weighing 44 tons, it has a length of 26.4 m, a width of 3.09 m and a height of 4.4 m. Maximum speed is 160 km/h and the interior sound level is about 63 dB. The bogie is of Asea's new self-steering radial type with disc brakes. The exterior and interior design - including desks in Scandinavian birchwood - was carried out in co-operation with Expovision AB of Vasteras.

The Asea Shuttle was introduced in order to facilitate the daily commuting of company staff who live in Stockholm and work in Vasteras. They will travel on ordinary 2nd class season tickets and half the time spent on the train will be registered as working hours. The carriage will also be used by Asea employees going on business trips to Stockholm. The Asea Shuttle will also help recruit new employees from the Stockholm region, the company says.

SAS GROUP PROFIT INCREASES 48% IN 1985/1986

Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS) reports an income before allocations and taxes of Kr.1,515 million (\$215,000,000) for fiscal 1985/1986 ending September 30. This is an increase of Kr.498 million compared with 1984/1985. Total turnover was up 9% to Kr.21,585 million.

The gross margin - income before depreciation in relation to total turnover - improved from 7.8% in 1984/85 to 10.7% in 1985/86.

Airline operations registered an income of Kr.1,197 million, an increase of 48% compared with the previous fiscal year, on revenues of Kr. 16,495 million. SAS International Hotels (turnover: Kr.1,083 million) noted a Kr. 5 million increase in income to Kr.72 million.

SAS traffic on European destinations was up 9%, while domestic operations in Sweden, Denmark and Norway increased by 21, 8 and 5 percent, respectively. Facing hard competition, SAS improved its market position also on intercontinental services. The airline carried 11.7 million passengers - an increase of 4% on 1984/85 - at a capacity utilization of 66%. Freight traffic increased 3%.

During the fiscal year, aircraft investment decisions amounted to Kr.3.8 billion, including orders for 18 DC9-80 scheduled for delivery in 1987-1991. During the last three years, SAS has acquired or ordered aircraft for a total of Kr.8.5 billion.

INVESTMENTS IN INDUSTRY EXPECTED TO GROW BY 10% IN 1987

Investments in Swedish industry are expected to increase by about 10% in volume in 1987, approaching the high level at which they stood in the mid-1970's, Statistics Sweden writes in a survey.

In 1986, industrial investments are estimated at KR.30.2 billion (4.3 billion) in current prices. This denotes a decline at fixed prices by 2% compared with 1985, with investments in machinery dropping 6% and investments in building increasing 13%. Major decreases are reported from the pulp and paper industry, where investments were exceptionally high in 1985. In the engineering industry, by contrast, 1986 investments are up an estimated 11% compared with 1985.

Projections for 1987 show investment plans in industry totalling Kr.32.9 billion in current prices. This is Kr.4.3 billion more than companies announced for next year in similar survey in May. Practically all companies have made upward adjustments for their investment plans, particularly in the pulp and paper industry. The expected increase of 10% in investment volume next year applies equally to machinery and buildings.

The heaviest increase in investments next year is predicted for the automotive industry, up 37% per cent at fixed prices. If this sector is excluded, investments in other industrial sectors will grow by a more modest 4%.

Investments in wholesale and retail trade in 1987 are predicted to remain more or less unchanged for 1986, while in banking and insurance there will be a slight drop following three years of high investments. In communications and transport a 4% decline is expected following a increase of 22% in 1986.

SWEDISH DIPLOMAT APPOINTED HEAD OF U.N. OFFICE IN GENEVA

Swedish diplomat Jan Martenson, currently Under-Secretary General at the United Nations headquarters in New York in charge of disarmament issues, has been appointed Director-General of the United Nations Office in Geneva, the UN headquarters announced November 26. He will also be head of the United Nations Centre for Human Rights, succeeding Austrian-born Kurt Herndl.

Mr. Martenson, born in 1933, was the Secretary-General of the UN conference on the human environment held in Stockholm in 1972 and has also served as head of the chancery of the Swedish Royal Household. In Sweden he is well known as one of the country's more prominent writers of detective novels.

BUILDING COSTS IN SWEDEN INCREASED 8-10% IN 1986

Building costs for a 75 sq.m flat in multifamily houses in Sweden was Kr.526,500 (75,200) in the first half of 1986, compared with Kr.477,700 a year earlier, according to official figures. Production costs per square metre were Kr.6,230. The comparative cost for single-family housing was Kr.5,930 per sq.m. The an-

nual rate of price increase in multifamily housing construction was 10% and in single family housing 8.0%.

ECONOMIC NEWS IN BRIEF

The average hourly wage for Sweden's 547,200 industrial workers in September was Kr.53.49 (\$7.64), up 7.3% compared with September 1985. Workers in mining had the highest hourly wage, Kr.62.90, while the lowest Kr.46.26, was registered for workers in the textile and clothing industry.

Volvo, Sweden's largest industrial group, reports total sales of Kr.61 billion (8.7 billion) for the first three quarters of 1986 compared with Kr.62.3 billion for January-September 1985. Sales of industrial products were up 9% while oil trade dropped 39%. Earnings after financial income and expenditure were up from Kr.5.86 billion to Kr.6.1 billion. Deliveries of cars increased from 296,000 to 322,000 units.

NORWAY

Continued from Page 11

SMALL FIRMS ENJOY STRONGEST GROWTH

It can be said that, almost without exception, it is the small firms, employing less than 10 persons, that have generated growth in the period 1976-83. 96% of all new company creation takes place in this group and, even if this category also stands for 90% of the total number of wound up companies, it is here that the positive changes in employment occur. The medium-large and large companies, as a group, contribute only in a negative sense. This is made clear in a new research study undertaken in Norway.

The majority of the 15,000 enterprises established annually take place within good trading/production and in the service sector. Despite many being wound up quite quickly and the fact that their importance for employment on short term is not great, the report concludes that these initiatives are decisive on long term for production and employment growth. Today's start-ups will first be shown to make an important contribution at the end of this century. Firms specialising in technology will comprise the most important sector for investment, and the state's role in this process of new development will be to guide the development of the infrastructure, e.g. in research, education, advice and consultancy and the cultivation of international contacts.

In the period 1976-83, about 20,000 more companies were established than wound up. In other words, a considerable renewal of business life took place in Norway. At the end of this 7-year period, 45% of the companies and 32% of the workplaces were less than 7 years old. The loss of firms and workplaces among the different sectors of business life was evenly spread.

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